

With Warm Wishes at Christmas



Everything's looking all merry and bright
But just to be sure that we're doing it right
We're taking this opportunity to review
And say how much we appreciate you.

Wishing You A Merry, Bright &
SAFE Holiday Season With Thanks



Member FDIC

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 109, Number 29

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 29, 2005

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Paving request brings residents to Coffee County Commission meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Several residents of Coffee County Road 721 attended Tuesday, Dec. 27, meeting of the Coffee County Commission to support their neighbor, Bill Baker, as he made a presentation to commissioners.

Baker said his purpose for attending the meeting was to discuss the finishing of paving of County Road 721. He said all of the road has been paved except an approximate one mile stretch.

Of several reasons mentioned by Baker as reasons to complete the paving of the road, Baker

said the main reason is safety. He said the unpaved portion of the road contains areas where it is difficult for two vehicles to meet, and he is afraid a catastrophic accident might occur one day.

Baker also mentioned to commissioners that the population of residents has increased quite a bit on the road since the other portion was paved. Due to that increased population, he said erosion has become a problem on the unpaved portion.

Commissioner Doug Dalrymple said the road is in his district, and he tried several years ago to get the appropriate right-of-way documents signed so the entire road could be paved but was not successful in his attempt.

"The reason the road is not paved now is you have to have right-of-ways, and I couldn't get them," he said.

Baker said he believes Dalrymple could get those right-of-ways now if he were to try again as the majority of the residents share the same concern over the road condition. He continued by saying the residents are willing to do whatever nec-

essary to help the county prepare to pave the road.

Addressing Baker, Commissioner Dalrymple said when the commission begins setting its priority list, he will contact Baker. He again said the first order of business at that point will be to get the right-of-way documents signed.

County engineer Randy Tindell has several items needing approval from commissioner's during Tuesday's meeting. All were approved by a unanimous vote of the commission (Commissioner Bernest Brooks was absent from the meeting) and included:

- Resolution authorizing the chairman to enter into agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for the resurfacing of County Roads 415 and 531.

- Resolution approving an agreement between Coffee County and Dale County regarding the maintenance of Coffee County Road 709 and Dale County Road 1. Tindell said each county will maintain the road on their respective side.

Please See CCC, Page 2

NOTICE

The Elba Clipper office will be closed Monday, Jan. 2, 2006, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday. Due to the holiday, all social and church news will be due before 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, for the next edition of the paper. All other deadlines remain Tuesday at Noon.

The Elba Clipper takes a look back at 2005

JANUARY 2005

Jan. 6 - New Brockton Town Council rejects proposal from Arrow Disposal Services to change the town's garbage pick-up day; New Brockton Town Council supports Mayor Charles Cobb as Chief of Police; Authorities search for missing Kinston man, Joseph Delane Finkley; Shandee Daniels dies nine years after paralyzing football accident.

Jan. 13 - Vandals leave path of destruction in Coffee County as timber bridge on County Road 365 is destroyed by fire and Newbia voting house is damaged; Beaver Dam Trailer Park residents express concerns to Elba City Council regarding registered letter they received indicating removal of mobile homes from the property; County engineer says rain is villain holding up progress on County Road 400 reconstruction project.

Jan. 20 - Body of missing Kinston man (Joseph Delane Finkley) found and three people arrested in connection to his death; Emergency personnel respond to scene one-vehicle accident on Lower Curtis Road; James Richards named Elba's street superintendent; Town of New Brockton holds annual Walk of Remembrance honoring the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; Investiture ceremony held for judges Jeff Kelley and Paul Sherling; Four people arrested on drug charges at 1697 County Road 408.

Jan. 27 - Coffee County Commission has lengthy discussion regarding number of hours in work week for county employees; New Brockton Elementary students collect "Pennies for Baily" to assist fellow student Baily Mitchell, a sufferer of Common Variable Immune Deficiency; Elba Board of Education presents Mike Gursan with Alabama Educational Media Honor Roll award; Terry Spicer joins Enterprise-Ozark Community College as assistant to president.

Feb. 3 - In honor of Sgt. Jason D. Jordan, nation's first "Lest They Be Forgotten" monument dedicated at Elba's Veterans

Memorial Park; Mark Vaughan and daughter, Katie, both compete in the annual New York Marathon; City of Elba begins \$4 million improvement project for airport.

Feb. 10 - City of Elba receives enhancement funds for downtown sidewalk improvements; Coffee County Circuit Clerk Mickey Counts severs ties with Democratic Party; Elba Police arrest three individuals following high speed chase that ended near Covington County's Friendship community; 2001 Ford Crown Victoria patrol car for Elba Police Dept. was destroyed by fire following the high speed chase; Altrusa International Inc. of Jack, Ala., honors Melinda Hodge as 2005 Teacher of Year at Zion Chapel School; Kinston murder suspect (Richard Dale Taylor) waives extradition; Photo shows Elba Clipper in Afghanistan.

Feb. 17 - New Brockton town officials upset over DOT's most recent Highway 84 plans; Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer deliver discretionary funds to county schools for various improvement projects; New Brockton officials ask county commission for help with water line project on County Rd. 517 and ongoing battle with state DOT regarding Hwy. 84 project; Elba City Council agrees to purchase three new police patrol cars.

Feb. 24 - R. W. Whitworth resigns as Elba's police chief; Fire destroys a home located at 1026 Teresa Street; Elba begins installation of state-of-the-art utility meters; Coffee County Commission forms committee to look at public transportation program; Elba's Max Bozeman elected vice president of Alabama Cattlemen's Association.

March 3 - Elba City Council approves resolution allowing construction of playground on old Elba High School property; Interested citizens gathered at Elba Elementary to hear a presentation on the construction of the new playground/park complex in downtown Elba; New Brockton plans town hall meeting to discuss Hwy. 84 concerns; Elba High School student

Gale Olson served as a page in the Alabama House of Representatives sponsored by Rep. Terry Spicer.

March 10 - New Brockton holds town hall meeting with Senator Jimmy Holley and Rep. Terry Spicer asking for their help in trying to get DOT to keep the current Hwy. 84 open as an alternate route for motorists once construction is complete on the 4-laning project; Ferrin Cox elected president of the Alabama Press Association for 2005; Ribbon cutting held for new division of Southeast Pharmaceuticals Inc.

March 17 - Committee presents report on public transportation system during Coffee County Commission meeting; Alabama Governor Bob Riley signs new open meetings law; New Brockton town officials hold second town hall meeting this time with Sen. Jimmy Holley, Rep. Terry Spicer and Alabama Department of Transportation officials; City of Elba crews work to eliminate erosion problems at bridge on Tiger Drive.

March 24 - Elba's chief of police position attracts nine applicants; Elba Chamber of Commerce host legislative breakfast; Bethany Dye gains experience as editor of Troy University's school newspaper; Fire Chief Harry Driggers honored by Brantley Town Council.

March 31 - Elba residents Wesley DeVane and Johnny Senn honored for heroic measures; Elba W&E board approves slight increase in water rates; Coffee County Commission approves resolution supporting the four-laning of Hwy. 167; Hail storm Saturday afternoon, March 26, caused structural damage in the area; Demolition of the junior high wing of the old Elba High School facility begins.

April 7 - Recent heavy rains help City of Elba officials locate and address abandoned property with newly rehabilitated levee; National Security's Relay for Life team hosts "A Montage of Music" as fund raising event; New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole says police officers are not ticketing every motorist stopped despite rumors; County

Schools' DARE students participate in exercise using DUI goggles.

April 14 - Coffee County Commission reaches gridlock vote regarding grant application process for Zion Chapel Senior Center; Coffee County Commission receives award from Alabama Gerontological Society; County BOE approves superintendent's request to increase substitute bus driver's pay; County Schools' superintendent says hail storm damage tremendous at Zion Chapel School; Elba City Council approves modifications to police department's SOP manual; City of Elba and Elba Water and Electric receive job safety awards.

April 21 - Phase II of county water authority's expansion project moves one step closer to completion; Elba animal control officer George Homyak receives a microchip scanner from SOS Animal Shelter in Enterprise; Hickman Moving and Storage selected as Non-Temporary Storage Transportation Service Provider of 2004 for the Southeast Region of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command; Elba residents Wesley DeVane and Johnny Senn among nominees for 2005 Legislative Medal of Honor; Residents express concern over the road's shoulder condition on County Road 537.

April 28 - Freddy Hanchey named Chief of Police for City of Elba; Elba Headstart celebrates "Week of the Young Child" with parade around downtown; County Commission votes to move forward with Zion Chapel Senior Center project; Concerned citizens gather at intersection of Hwy. 134 and county roads 545 and 603 to show their support for a push that safety improvements be made at the intersection.

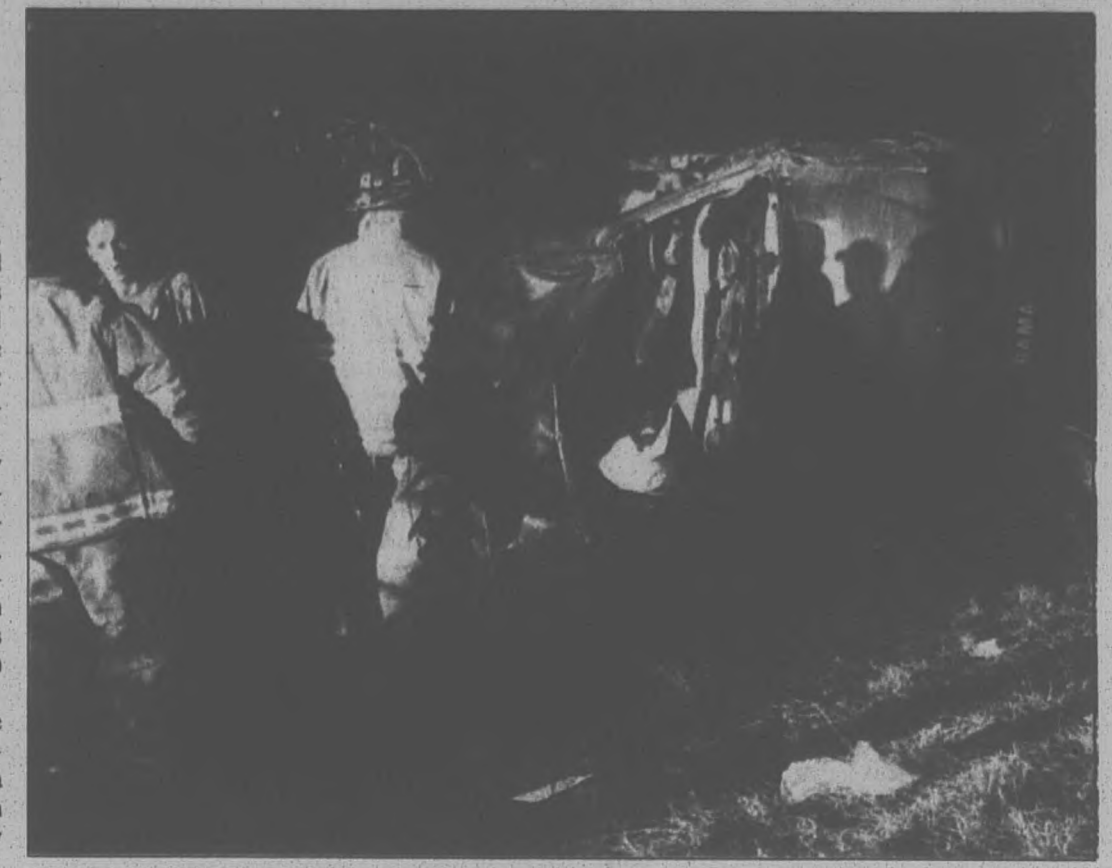
May 5 - New Brockton Police look for rape suspect Robert Steve Marshall; Rainy weather postpones Elba Band Day "chair" auction; New Brockton officials stress danger of barricaded section of Tyler Street (County Rd. 533); Senator Jimmy Holley presents third-

quarter State Aid check to Kay Wilson of the Elba Public Library.

May 12 - Coffee County Commission approves motion to complete measures to improve safety of intersection at Hwy. 134 and county roads 545 and 603; County becomes victim of another bridge burning when a timber bridge on County Road 323 is heavily damaged; Elba city clerk reports replacement of manholes on Claxton Ave. and Larkin Rd.; Mobile Attic Inc. announces five new franchise locations; Local citizens gather at the flagpole outside the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba to participate in the National Day of Prayer.

May 19 - Elba City Schools receive a \$200,000 grant for reading program improvements; Weekend fire destroys home in Zion Chapel community (one of three fires reported in the community during the weekend); Suspicious fires in Zion Chapel community being investigated; Elba Police search for robbery suspect after an undisclosed amount of money was reported as taken from a local convenience store; Local residents participate in annual Relay for Life event; J.A. Wise and Son Farms named Alabama's 2005 Farm of Distinction; Elba police officers discuss drugs with senior citizens at the Damascus Senior Citizens Center.

May 26 - One vehicle wreck on County Road 518 claims the life of 3-year-old Jeremiah Hooks (three others injured); Elba City Council approves transfer of former police car to New Brockton; Work crews prepare the foundation on top of the levee for pumps and associated equipment at the storm water



LOCAL EMERGENCY PERSONNEL RESPONDED to an early morning accident Thursday, Dec. 22, approximately three miles outside the Elba city limits on Alabama Highway 189 North. A call reporting the one-vehicle accident was received by Elba Police Department dispatchers at 6:39 a.m. last Thursday morning. Immediately, police and rescue units were dispatched to the scene where they found a Dodge van had left the roadway and flipped several times before halting near a wooded area. The driver and lone occupant of the vehicle had been ejected from the van. The Elba Fire Department was dispatched to the scene to assist rescue personnel. Reportedly, chainsaws were used to clear the area where the driver was thrown helping rescue personnel better assist the victim. The driver was transported by a unit from Coffee County EMS to the local hospital for treatment of injuries sustained during the accident. The Alabama State Troopers office completed the investigation of the accident.

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collection point behind the old schools; Elba City BOE approves retirement of Mickey McCollough, Bill Rayborn and Mary Lois Wilson; Ribbon cutting held for Circle C Coins.

June 2 - County BOE members listen to a presentation regarding options and ideas for various roofing and renovation projects within the system; Elba Mayor James Grimes proclaims National Garden Week; Coffee County holds annual Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting; Elba Police Department honored by the National Committee for Employer Support of the military's Guard and Reserve.

June 9 - Coffee County Schools purchase mobile laptop lab; Charles Carpenter was arrested and charged with domestic violence first degree after reportedly shooting his estranged wife; 17 individuals charged in recent Zion Chapel School vandalism incident; New Brockton Town Council honors employees and volunteers thanking them for their dedication to the town.

June 16 - Coffee County Commission approves 20-year lease agreement for Enterprise Multipurpose Center; County receives funds to improve County Rd. 415; Elba High School Class of '55 supports Elba playground project through monetary donation; Elba Public Library offers variety of reading programs for all ages; County extension office hosts manners workshop/tea party for young ladies ages 8-14.

June 23 - Personnel issues

Please See YEAR, Page 10

THE CITY OF ELBA OFFICES will be closed Monday, Jan. 2, 2006, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday. There will be standby crews for any emergency with electricity, water, street or sewer. In report an emergency, call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555. The garbage pickup schedule will be unchanged.

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting on the 5th of Jan. 2006 at the Coffee County Farm Center. Anyone interested in the honeybee is welcome to attend. For more information please call Elizabeth Whitaker at 334-994-2077.

Area Happenings

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Our readers almost had to go through Christmas without their weekly copy of The Elba Clipper last week. A press broke down at our printer and the situation just kept getting worse as the hours wore on. Thanks to determination by press operators actually working around the clock and the Clipper staff working late and back at 6 a.m., most folks got their paper by Thursday. During these crisis times we wonder aloud why even stay in this crazy business. Then when the problems are solved and the paper in the mail, we again find a large part of our answer. It is an unwavering love and satisfaction of seeing another edition hit the streets. It is a feeling that has been enjoyed since childhood under the feet of two older generations of relatives. Those emotions have grown stronger with each passing year. This surely joins being blessed with a great family and wonderful friends in contributing to the state of mind expressed to Heddy a couple of weeks ago when she asked about our "wants" for Christmas. The response was something about life itself being our Christmas, gift and ended with "Every day is another Christmas for me." Our prayer today is that each of you are experiencing the same emotional highs in your life.

In November news reports carried unusual headlines after a relatively small California community held a school board election. When the votes were counted there were lots of surprised citizens. The winner had not campaigned at all, in fact, if any even knew him. The winner, with 831 votes, didn't campaign because he was in prison. The man is due out in February after being his right after qualifying with parole violation from a spousal abuse and drug possession case. His name was at the top of the ballot, which indicates that at least 831 voters put little or no deep thought into their vote. Such events can cause a person to marvel that America's democratic system has survived (and thrived) for over 200 years!

Society can relax now. A Dutch scientist, with a bit of American help, designed a computer program which tells us what the smile on the face of the Mona Lisa means. Here goes... Mona Lisa was 83 percent happy, 9 percent disgusted, 6 percent fearful, and 2 percent angry, according to the British weekly "New Scientist." The Leonardo Da Vinci masterpiece was painted in the early 1500's. There is endless speculation on the identity of the model, a friend, his mother, self portrait, etc. Some historians also write that the artist carried the painting as he moved around and kept improving (or changing) it until his death.

Death always brings heartbreak to loved ones left behind. It seems the pain is much worse when the loss of a child is involved. Last week a 15 year old girl from Geneva died in a one car accident. While we didn't know her nor her family, we hurt with the parents and other relatives and friends. News reports indicate she was a class act young lady, a tidbit of information that seems to twist the knife in our aching hearts. The only positive we got from the newspaper and TV reports of her wreck was the jogging of our memory and pausing to think of so many other great people we did know whose life was ended early and so tragically.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, 1297 and 1285 Ann St. (3:00 p.m.), beginning Monday, Dec. 19, 2005, investigated the following incidents: one collision with a parked vehicle, two for discharging a fire arm, one assault; one incident, two for domestic violence, one unlawful imprisonment, one carrying a pistol without a permit, one criminal mischief and one burglary.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for a suspended driver's license, one for no insurance and one for speeding.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, DEC. 19 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 30366 Hwy. 134 (10:18 a.m.); Wreck reported in the parking lot of Kelley Foods (12:10 p.m.); Report of shots fired near 1297 Ann St. (9:20 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 20 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 941 Forest Ave. (3:38 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 23200 Hwy. 189 N. (4:32 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance (noise) reported on Jackson St. (9:52 a.m.); Wreck reported in front of Family Dollar Store (3:34 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Mulberry Grocery (6:24 p.m.); Burglary reported at 1890 Hickman Ave. (10:46 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21 - River stage - 7.97 feet (6:44 a.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported at the Elba Marketplace (11:22 a.m.); Fight in progress reported in between

Iraqis continue to support democracy

by Congressman Terry Everett

Iraq's recent national election results will take several weeks to be tallied, but already the process has resulted in another triumph for democracy in a region long dominated by totalitarian governments. This significant event cannot, however, be viewed as an end to the process of democratizing Iraq, rather it is just the beginning of a long journey.

As I write this column the day after the December 15 Iraqi elections, preliminary reports indicate that as much as 70 percent of the nation may have turned out to cast ballots. This could represent the strongest showing yet for democracy in the Arab world which has already made history by holding two national referendums this year. Like the January 30 elections for a Transitional National Assembly and the October 15 national vote on the new constitution, the December 15 polling for a permanent Iraqi assembly was characterized by higher than expected voter turnout and very little violence.

As the voting process was winding down on December 15, I

could not help but notice that national television news coverage of the day was largely focused on other events - ranging from a short-lived East Coast ice storm to squabbles on Capitol Hill over the new defense bill. Had Iraqis shunned the vote or there been major terror attacks in that country, you can be sure the national media would have led with that. The ultra liberal Washington Post's next morning headline begrudgingly admitted Iraq's voter turnout, but interestingly not without throwing in a jab at the United States. "Iraqi Vote Draws Big Turnout of Sunnis, Anti-U.S. Sentiment Is Motivator for Many."

While Washington liberals try to "spin" last week's elections as something less than positive, the facts speak for themselves. Three years ago, Saddam Hussein was dictator of Iraq and terrorizing his people. Today, despite the threats of terrorists and those bent on turning back the clock, Iraqis appear to have turned out to vote in numbers proportionately higher than in U.S. presidential elections. Robust showings among the major ethnic groups of

Shiites, Kurds, and Sunnis illustrate that ordinary Iraqis are hungry for democracy and the chance for a better life.

No less than 300 parties and coalitions registered to participate in last week's elections which featured over 7,000 individual candidates.

Iraqis were afforded over 33,000 polling stations and 6,400 polling centers to cast their ballots. Twenty one international observer groups brought more than 800 persons to watch the elections. And, security at the polling places was largely left to the Iraqis themselves. The outcome of the historic vote is the selection of 275 individuals who will serve four-year terms as members of the national Council

of Representatives. This body will, in turn, select a presidency council and cabinet of ministers.

For sure, this outpouring of democracy is being watched closely by Iraq's neighbors, particularly Iran and Syria which are anything but democratic. These regimes and others who support dictatorship and terrorism in the Middle East know full well that a free and democratic Iraq is a threat to their own political influence over that region.

Regarding the significance of the Iraq vote, President Bush said it best: "History has shown that free nations are peaceful nations. And as Iraqi democracy takes hold, Iraqi citizens will have a stake in a common and peaceful future."



DRAWING BENEFITS ELBA PLAYGROUND PROJECT-Elba Mayor James Grimes picked the winning ticket out of the bag Saturday morning, Dec. 17, for the "Big Basket" prize pack. The Elba Playground Committee had been selling chances to win the basket since the Elba Christmas Festival held Nov. 26th.

Major Grimes pulled the ticket purchased by Hunter Boswell out of the bag, and committee members immediately called Boswell to inform him of his win. Holding the bag for Mayor Grimes as he picks the ticket is Peyton Dunn. Also on hand for the drawing were Kristin and Ella Gunnells, Nell Gilmer, Garrett Dunn, Jill Dunn and Judy Melo. Committee members said almost 600 tickets were sold raising over \$1,000 for the Elba Playground project. For more information about the playground project visit the website at: www.elbaalabama.net/playground

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, Jan. 9, in the community center of the county complex in New Brockton.

Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home
is pleased to announce the practice ofTimothy Jetton, M.D.
Board Certified in Family Practice

Dr. Timothy Jetton is a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine. His post graduate training was done at the University of Tennessee in Memphis, Tennessee. He and his wife Shelby have one son, Andrew, 5-months-old.

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Appointments offered for all ages. Comprehensive services including well women exams, well child exams and minor dermatological procedures.

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Office Opens

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2006

as we welcome Dr. Jetton and his family to Elba



LINDA HODGE, editor of The Elba Clipper, is shown receiving a certificate honoring her recent selection to the Alabama Association of School Boards' statewide Education Media Honor Roll. Presenting the certificate at a recent Elba School Board meeting is Superintendent Danny Weeks. Ms. Hodge is an Elba native and a graduate of the Elba school system.

MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe to meet

There will be a meeting of the MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama on Saturday, January 14, 2006 at 1:00 PM CST. The meeting will be at 2778 Geneva County Road 5, Kinston, Alabama 36403 (Lowery Community).

Items to be discussed include: Scholarships; Update and discussion of the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission Meeting Tuesday, January 17, 2006; Update on Keopsiege versus USDA - Lawsuit - (Farmers Layoffs); Update on the Indian Trust Missing Money; Discussion of eligibility qualifications on all services; Instructions on the completing of the Citizenship Registration Card.

Each individual will be responsible for completing their own form. No services, allotments, benefits will be rendered, unless this form is completed and approved. Responding to this request in a timely manner is greatly appreciated.

Anyone with questions or concerns should contact Chief James Wright, 218 County Road 519, Elba, Alabama 36323. Telephone (334) 449-0607, email address machislowercreek@aol.com

New executive director named for SEARP&DC

Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (SEARP&DC) Chairman W. Roy Crow of Eufaula announces that Thomas B. Solomon has been named as the new executive director.

After 18 years of service to the Commission, Freddy Dykes recently announced his plans for retirement. The Executive Board and 35-member Board of Directors worked diligently and did an excellent job in selecting Solomon as the Commission's new executive director.

As Mr. Dykes states, "I'm confident even better days are ahead for the Commission."

Solomon has been with the Commission since 1991 and brings a wealth of experience, accomplishments and expertise to his new position.

Human Resources Manager, Penny Rotolo, notes that "for the last nine years Mr. Solomon has been the director of economic development where he developed and managed numerous regional community and economic development grant and loan projects utilizing Federal and State resources including Economic Development Administration (EDA), USDA/Rural Development, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Land and



Thomas B. Solomon

Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds exceeding \$21,000,000. The Commission is well positioned for growth and we are confident that he will provide the leadership needed for accelerated and sustained success in our mission of serving our communities."

Solomon resides in Headland with his wife, Liz. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Troy State University and is a graduate of the Alabama Banking School at the University of South Alabama, Mobile; the Economic Development Institute at the University of

Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma; American Economic Council's Economic Development Program at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, Georgia and the National Development Council's Economic Development Finance Professional certification program.

Solomon is involved with the State of Alabama Revolving Loan Fund Steering Committee.

Mr. Solomon stated, "SEARP&DC has a very dedicated and knowledgeable staff providing an array of valuable services to the Southeast Alabama region. I am humbled by the confidence entrusted to me by the board of directors and look forward to continuing the important work of the Commission serving the development needs of citizens, local governments and small businesses in Southeast Alabama."

FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

Obituaries

HENRY CHARLES TERRY
Mr. Henry Charles Terry, age 65, of Tallahassee, Fla., died recently.

Funeral services were held Dec. 22, 2005 at St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church of Enterprise, Ala. with Rev. Dr. Virgil Coleman officiating. Burial followed at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Samson, Ala. with Coleman Funeral Home directing. Survivors include his wife: Ernestine Beard Terry, Tallahassee; his son: Henry Terry, Tallahassee; three sisters: Ruth Newbold, Panama City, Fla., Mae Miller and Catherine West, both of Samson; and one brother: Ruben James Terry, Panama City.

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details Call 897-2225

COLEMAN FUNERAL HOME and COLEMAN & SOWELL MEMORIAL & VAULT COMPLETE CEMETERY WORK We now have 2 locations to serve you 703 Adams Ave. Elba & 701 Daleville Ave. Enterprise (334)897-8148 (334) 393-6583 PRE-NEED FUNERAL & MONUMENT AVAILABLE We Serve With Dignity & Care

Horizon Vault & Monument Company, Inc. Caring service when it matters the most P.O. Box 678 1614 County Road 359 Elba, AL 36323 Locally Owned & Operated by Heath and Jessica Wyroslick (334) 897-8300

Wildflowers Florist & Gifts 322 Buford Street Elba, AL 36323 897-3010

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John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Linda M. Hodge - EDITOR
Ricky Mulaz - SPORTS
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

LIFESTYLES

Tuscaloosa native completes Congressional internship in Senator Shelby's office



Senator Shelby and J. Frank Kendrick

This July, U.S. Senator Richard C. Shelby (R-Ala.) welcomed J. Frank Kendrick of Tuscaloosa, Alabama as an intern in his Washington, D.C. office. J. Frank is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Carol Kendrick, also of Tuscaloosa. He is the grandson of Oscar and Betty Vaughan of Elba.

While in Washington, D.C., J. Frank had the opportunity to correspond with constituents and perform other constituent services, assist with government research, give tours of the Capitol building, and receive Congressional Research Service Certification. He also had the opportunity to attend hearings at the Senate Banking and Judiciary Committees.

J. Frank said, "Interning in Senator Shelby's office gave me a better understanding of the inner workings of the political process. I value my experiences in Washington and hope to use them as building blocks for my future."

J. Frank is currently pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in Political Science, with a minor in History from the University of Alabama.

Senator Shelby said, "The Congressional Internship Program is an important complement to these students' academic studies. Their experiences help bring to life what they have studied in the classroom. The internships foster a fuller, richer understanding of our government's legislative process, while providing a first-hand view of public service."

"Many times, interning in our nation's capital inspires and motivates young people to one day seek elected office or work as public servants. I know the bright, energetic students who assisted me during July will go on to achieve great things, whether in Washington, D.C. or elsewhere," Shelby concluded.

Shelby's Congressional Internship Program is open to college students and recent graduates who exhibit an interest in government and public service.

Conner Stricklin

Conner Stricklin turned one year old Friday, Dec. 16, 2005. He celebrated his first birthday Saturday, Dec. 17 with a Winnie the Pooh party.

Conner is the son of Lee and Ceretha Stricklin of Elba. Grandparents are Perry and Dottie Stricklin, Hayward Towles, and Ben and Martha Drawery all of Elba.

Conner Stricklin is one year old

MARSH INSURANCE AGENCY

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Hurry for the Best Selection. Limited Quantities. Hundreds of Items Marked Down!

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Dresser, Headboard, Mirror & Night Stand. Compare at \$299. **BAL. \$149**

Whirlpool Electric Range. 30 inch, plug in, plug out burners, self cleaning. Compare at \$450.00. **BAL. \$238**

Whirlpool 17.2 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR FREEZER. 2 Door, No Frost. Compare \$448. **BAL. \$255**

Fridgidaire Refrigerator Freezer. 24 Cu. Ft. Side-by-Side, Water Ice Dispenser. **BAL. \$488**

RECLINER

Compare at \$225. **BAL. \$99**

Wood Dinette Table. New in carton with four chairs. Compare at \$249. **BAL. \$119**

Whirlpool Washer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$159**

Whirlpool Dryer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$145**

Whirlpool 17.2 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR FREEZER. 2 Door, No Frost. Compare \$448. **BAL. \$255**

Fridgidaire Refrigerator Freezer. 24 Cu. Ft. Side-by-Side, Water Ice Dispenser. **BAL. \$488**

3 PC. LIVINGROOM SUITE

Sofa, Loveseat & Chair. Compare at \$995. **BAL. \$388**

Whirlpool Dishwasher. Heavy Duty, under counter, regular wash & dry cycle. Compare at \$298. **BAL. \$139.95**

Whirlpool Washer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$159**

Whirlpool Dryer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$145**

Whirlpool 17.2 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR FREEZER. 2 Door, No Frost. Compare \$448. **BAL. \$255**

Fridgidaire Refrigerator Freezer. 24 Cu. Ft. Side-by-Side, Water Ice Dispenser. **BAL. \$488**

Whirlpool Washer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$159**

Whirlpool Dryer. Heavy Duty, Select Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$250. **BAL. \$145**



Emily Elizabeth Bryan and Jason Hunter Rolling

Miss Bryan & Mr. Rolling to wed Saturday, January 21st

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert R. Bryan, Sr. of Elba announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter Emily Elizabeth Bryan to Jason Hunter Rolling, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wayne Rolling of Luverne, Ala.

The bride elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Austin Hyatt of Enterprise, Mr. and Mrs. Hughie Wildon Bryan of Elba, and the great-granddaughter of Mrs. Louis Hudson of Elba. She is a 1999 graduate of Elba High School. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Broadcast Journalism and Public Relations from Troy University. Miss Bryan is employed by a medical supply company in Montgomery as Customer Care Coordinator.

The future groom is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nelson of Luverne, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Maynard Rolling of Petry. He is a 1996 graduate of Luverne High School and a former cadet at West Point Military Academy in West Point, New York, where he played football for the Army. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems with a minor in Computer Science from Troy University where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Mr. Rolling is employed by the Alabama Supreme Court in Montgomery, as Information Systems Specialist.

The wedding will be an event of Saturday, January twenty-first at six o'clock in the evening at The First Baptist Church of Luverne. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony at the Luverne Country Club. All family and friends are invited to attend.

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CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

REV. W.L. PETERSON

GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

It is amazing to me how much the Christmas season has changed over the years. There was a time when it was truly about the birth of Jesus but now it has become a time filled with many mixed messages with pagan and worldly rituals. It seems every year we muddy the waters of truth by allowing the scriptural meaning of the season to be mingled with other messages that have eliminated the words "Merry Christmas" and replace it with "Happy Holidays." To many it is about money, commercialism and greed. Many children only know about Christmas in the context of fairy tales. Thank God today for the Bible. In his Holy, infallible word, God set the record straight. The centrality of Christmas is the Birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time of giving. Just as God gave his son to us, we are to give our souls to him. He gave us the best he had. We should give him all that we have. As we move about this Christmas season let us not forget what it is truly about. We must stand up and let the world know that it is still all about the Birth of Jesus. Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year!



Pastor W.L. Peterson

TROY L. MORRISON, FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS, (left) presented the Troy L. Morrison Leadership Church Growth Award to (1) Harold Rogers, pastor of Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, Enterprise, in the area of new work; Billy C. Masters, pastor of Victory Hill Baptist Church, Albertville, in the area of bivocational work; and Jay Wolf, pastor of First Baptist Church, Montgomery, in the area of established work.

Watch night service planned at Elba Church of God on New Year's Eve

Watch night service will be held at the Elba Church of God, New Year's Eve, December 31. A covered dish supper will start at 8:00 PM. Music of No Greater Love Ministry with Tyron Leonard will begin after the meal. The Stinson family will minister in song, and Crossfire with Buford and Doris Roberts, will also minister in song and word. Local singers are welcome to sing and bring in the New Year with the church members. Local churches will also be there in conjunction with the

festivities. The young people will be enjoying themselves in the Youth Center with games and activities with Pastor Stallard ministering. All activities will wind down around 12:30 AM. The public is invited and welcome to bring in the New Year in the Love of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior was

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Round & About

With Eria

897-2006

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 3:1-18
PRAYING FOR YOU:
 Rev. & Mrs. E. Freeman, Alan Belcher, Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Thelma Hightower, Lovie Hooks, Rev. Charles Lane, Tammy Tillis, Katharine Anderson Warren, Cleve M. Davis

DECEMBER B-DAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:
 Mary Sue Lee Dawson-Dec. 27, Lorene Cole-Dec. 28, Thomas Williams-Dec. 28 (In Memory Of), Abdel A. Bilal-Dec. 29, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Williams-Dec. 31 (W.A.)

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY:
 Kathleen Lanette Johnson, Riverdale, Ga., is the daughter of Otis and Joyce Johnson of Tusculum, Ala. Kathy received a Master's of Education Degree in Early Childhood from the University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Ga. on Saturday, Dec. 17, 2005.

Family members and friends who attended the Commencement Ceremony were: Otis & Joyce Johnson of Tusculum, Thelma & Nyesha Johnson of Birmingham, Ala.; Eria Lindsey Belcher (Kathy's grandmother) of Elba; Wiley and Juanita and Ree-Nita Brooks of Enterprise, Ala. DeNard Brooks ASU.

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The Dyess Family

New Year's Eve concert to be held at Country Cathedral December 31st

December 31, 2005, "New Year's Eve," concert at Country Cathedral Assembly of God, located 6 mile east of Opp on U.S. HWY 84. The concert will start at 9 p.m. and bringing in the New Year featuring, The

Chestnut Grove United Methodist Church to host New Year's Eve celebration

Chestnut Grove United Methodist Church will sponsor a New Year's Eve Celebration Sunday evening, Dec. 31, at the Tarentum Community Center from 7 p.m. until midnight. Rev. Don Grantham will deliver the evening's message, and singing groups will include Old Southern Gospel Group, The Wilkersons, Monticello Bluegrass Gospel and The Franklins. Everyone is cordially invited.

Worship at the church of your choice this Sunday!

Samford University
 with Coffee Baptist Association
 Offers classes in Coffee County
 Portraits of Christ in the Tabernacle-OT130
 taught by Rev. Leon Adams
 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

The Interbaptist Period-NT159
 taught by Rev. Dickie McAllister
 7:40 - 8:40 P.M.

Monday Nights: January 9 - March 27, 2006
 Coffee County Baptist Center
 603 East McKinnon, New Brockton, AL 36351
 Samford University will give continuing education credits.
 For further information, call (334) 894-6411
Pre-register now!

Church Directory

<p>IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN Rev. Hubert McWaters Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 7:30 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Don Grantham Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH Pastor: Samson, Ala. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Night Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Nathan Carroll Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Nathan Carroll Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Barry Caldwell Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Barry Caldwell Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Tom Senn Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Robert Davis Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Martha Baxter Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays: 9:00 a.m. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays: 10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays: 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST Pastor: E. R. Hill Sunday School: 12:00 noon 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays</p>	<p>COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor: Matt Gray Bible Study: 9:00 a.m. Fellowship: 9:45 a.m. Wed. Night (Youth Rest Deal): 8:00 p.m. Children's Activities: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Hubert McWaters Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:30 p.m. Even. Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>FATH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor: Don Grantham Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor: Tim Gennelle Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Pastor: Ron Stallard Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY Pastor: Rev. David Tallock Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Wed. Night: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA DELIVERANCE CHURCH Pastor: Allen Richards Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor: Rev. Billy Reed Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Rev. Roger Miller Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Rev. Stanley Carter Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: David Martin Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH Pastor: Ray Stinson Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Youth Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>GOD'S POWER HOUSE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH Pastor: Rev. Billy Reed Sun. Service: 6:00 p.m. Sat. Service: 10:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Willie L. Peterson Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>HAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Rev. Stanley Carter Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor: Shirley Ellis Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>HEBREW BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Black Hayes Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor: Prady D. And Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>INO BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Gary Winstead Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor: Rev. Ashley Faust Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>KINSTON 1st BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Ray Stinson Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVING WORD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH Pastor: Ray Stinson Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship: 11:00 a.m. Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>LOVE'S WAY CHURCH </p>
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SPORTS

Views from....

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Another Christmas has come and gone, and while the tree has been put away and the decorations are back in their boxes, the memories will last forever as years from now we will all look back and remember the Christmas of '05 when family and friends came together to share the holiday and reminisce about holidays of years ago. While there were a few faces missing that would have made the season even more merry, there was more than enough love to go around.

ONCE OVER LIGHTLY...

*** The Alabama Sports Writers Association released its All-State high school football teams last week and included on the list was one member of the Elba Tigers and three players from Brantley. Elba's Brandon Kelley made the 2A team as a punter, but my guess is that his credentials as a quarterback were too good to ignore and the sports writers had to find a spot for him on the team. He was deserving, and wasn't all that bad a punter, either. The Brantley players included on the 1A list included Chris Booker, Jeffery Daniels and Shane Corley, and all three were very deserving. Booker picked up his game in the post-season and was the offensive spark that led the Bulldogs to the state finals, while Jeffery Daniels was a dominating force at linebacker and Corley was the Bulldogs' secret weapon from his tight-end spot. I felt there were a number of area players that at least deserved honorable mention, including Elba's Mason Gulley, Chase Bottwell and LaRay Williams; Brantley's Edgar Walker, James Pittman, Scotty Abadilla and Tyler Weaver; New Brockton's Derrick Cook, Sheridan Foster and Adam Crosby; Kinston's Garrett Parker, Aaron Jacobs and Anthony Weeks; and Zion Chapel's Abe Childs, D.J. Stinson and Hunter Wise. I don't get to vote in the annual all-state selections, but know there were a number of players from the area that were very deserving of the honors. Every young man that makes the sacrifice to play high school football is deserving of an award, and it is a true team sport in every sense of the word.

*** Elba's Ashleigh Waddail was named to the "Super 12" high school volleyball team by The Dothan Eagle and the honor capped off a very successful high school career for the Lady Tiger senior. Waddail had played volleyball on the JV and varsity teams for the past six years and was a driving force the past two years as the Lady Tigers won two straight area titles and advanced to the region tournament. She joined former Lady Tiger Lauren Sutley as the only Elba girls to sign volleyball scholarships when she committed to Faulkner Community College a few weeks back, and there is no doubt she has the athletic ability to play at the next level.

*** The North-South High School All-Star football game was held last week at Troy and the South rose again as it posted a 16-7 win. Brantley's Jeffery Daniels had 3 solo tackles and 3 assists to lead the South defense, while over on offense Houston Academy's Stanley Jones pulled in a long touchdown pass. The game featured the state's best juniors, and there can be little doubt next football season will shine with the talents of the players that took part last week.

*** The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will tip-off its youth basketball season next weekend and once again the court at the Rec Center will stay busy as a total of eleven teams will compete in seven different age divisions. The numbers in the program have declined in recent years with the decline in population, but the youngsters that do take part enjoy every minute of the action and learn the basics of the game. If anyone wonders just how much the youngsters learn, they should ask Elba Junior High coach Brian Weeks, who led the recreation guards to two straight undefeated seasons the last two years. There is no doubt basketball is alive and well in Elba.

*** In closing.... a new year is almost here and while everyone hopes the new year will be better than the one about to end, it is also time to look back and remember the good times and look at the not so good times to figure out how to improve. Hey, if you expect something good to happen just because it is a new year, you will right back in the same position next year wondering what went wrong. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Follow the bouncing ball right here each week in....

The Elba Clipper "Sports"

NOTICE

CITY PRIVILEGE LICENSES
ARE DUE

JANUARY 1, 2006

And Will Be Delinquent

FEBRUARY 1, 2006

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CITY OF ELBA

WAYNE GRANTHAM
CITY CLERK

Kinston's Wiggins named coach of year

Waddail joins three Kinston players on 2005 "Super 12" volleyball team

The Dothan Eagle announced its 2005 "Super 12" high school volleyball teams last weekend and included among the small school honorees were Elba's Ashleigh Waddail, Kinston's Candace Patterson and Kaleigh Sanders, as well as "Player of the Year" Heather Marlowe, of Kinston, and "Coach of the Year" Janie Wiggins, of Kinston.

Elba's Waddail, a senior, outside hitter, recorded 382 points service points, 105 aces, 217 kills, 35 assists and 45 digs.

The trio of Kinston players on the team were led by Marlowe, a sophomore, setter, who logged 125 aces, 61 kills, 638 assists, 156 digs and 32 blocks.

Patterson, a senior, outside hitter, recorded 111 aces, 205 kills, 237 digs, 22 assists and 16 blocks, while Sanders, a junior, outside hitter, recorded 97 aces, 182 kills and 283 digs.

Kinston Lady Bulldog coach Janie Wiggins guided her team to the semifinals of the Class 1A state tournament, a school record 51 wins against just 5 losses and led the Lady Bulldogs to the state tourney for the sixth time in seven years.

Following is a complete list of "Super 12" players in both the small school and large school classifications:

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has released its first high school basketball poll of the season and a number of area teams are ranked high in the statewide poll, including the Samson Lady Tigers, which are ranked #1 in the state in Class 2A.

Samson led by Coach Scott Kinsaul, led the Lady Tigers to the runner-up spot at the state tournament last season and this season his team is off to a perfect 11-0 start.

Following are the "Top 5" teams in both the boys and girls standings, along with area teams:

BOYS

Class 6A
1-LeFlore, 2-John Carroll Catholic, 3-Sparkman, 4-Huffman, 5-Jeff Davis
Class 5A
1-Butler, 2-Central Tuscaloosa, 3-Pleasant Grove, 4-Talladega, 5-Cullman
Class 4A
1-Southside Selma, 2-Anniston, 3-Guntersville, 4-Greene County, 5-Central Coosa
(Also) 10-Andalusia
Class 3A
1-Sumter County, 2-Madison

High School BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, December 29
Straughn at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB

Tuesday, January 3
Elba at Highland Home (4:30) JV-VG-VB
New Brockton at Luverne (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Pleasant Home at Zion Chapel (4:30) JV-VG-VB

Thursday, January 5
Kinston at McKenzie (4:30) JV-VG-VB
G.W. Long at New Brockton (4:30) JV-VG-VB

Friday, January 6
Luverne at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB
New Brockton at Highland Home (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Georgiana at Kinston (4:30) JV-VG-VB

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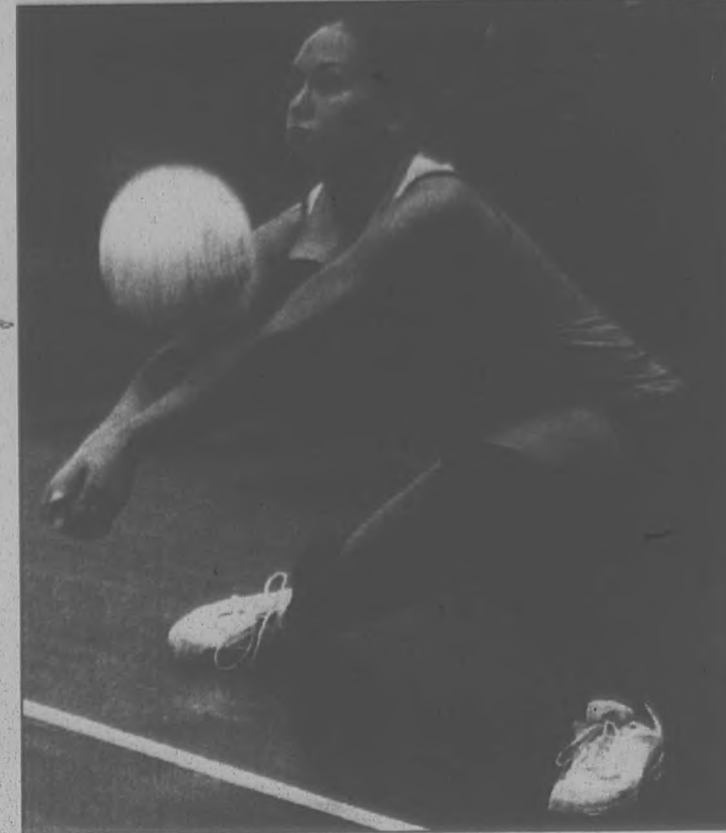
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SMALL SCHOOL
Rebecca Dowd, Providence Christian; Ashton Brewer, Providence Christian; Eden McKinley, Houston County; Rachel Cary, Providence; Ashleigh Waddail, Elba; Christine Spivey, Emmanuel Christian; Katelyn Hart, G.W. Long; Madison Williams, Emmanuel Christian; Candace Patterson, Kinston; Kaleigh Sanders, Kinston; Brienne Dollar, Houston Academy; Kristen Simpson, Northside Methodist.

"Player of the Year" - Heather Marlowe, Kinston
"Coach of the Year" - Janie Wiggins, Kinston

LARGE SCHOOL
Kaitlin Stephenson, Enterprise; Kortney Cooper, Dothan; Samantha Hicks, Dothan; Emily Galloway, Enterprise; Cherrell Stanley, Dothan; Jeneane Porter, Eufaula; Morgan Battey, Andalusia; Kayla Bratcher, Ashford; Tabitha Jenkins, Geneva; Marcy Jones, Geneva; Kelly Gibson, Rehoboth; Ashley Quincey, Dale County.

"Player of the Year" - Kayse Edwards, Daleville
"Coach of the Year" - Angie Grimes, Andalusia



ASHLEIGH WADDAIL... was named last week to the "Super 12" volleyball team chosen by The Dothan Eagle. The Lady Tiger stand out was named the MVP of the Elba team at the recent fall sports banquet.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

High School BASKETBALL BRIEFS

New Brockton slips past Pleasant Home 41-40

The New Brockton Gamecocks managed only one field-goal in the fourth quarter, but connected eight times from the free-throw line to slip past the Pleasant Home Eagles 41-40, last Monday night in the opening round of the Mizell Memorial Hospital Christmas Tournament, at Florala. Dadian Johnson knocked home two three-pointers in the first quarter to help the Gamecocks grab an early 12-10 lead, but the Eagles rallied late and owned a 32-31 lead heading into the final stanza, only to see New Brockton convert from the free-throw line to pull off the win. Dadian Johnson scored 10 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Adam Copeland scored 23 for the Eagles.

Lady Gamecocks tripped up by Lady Eagles 44-19

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks continued their early-season struggles last Monday night in the opening round of the Mizell Memorial Tournament as they fell to the Pleasant Home Lady Eagles 44-19. The Lady Gamecocks trailed 23-10 at the half and never recovered as they remained winless on the season. Jessica Johns scored 14 points to lead Pleasant Home and Kimberly Jacobs added 13.

Kinston Bulldogs fall to Opp Bobcats 63-45

The Kinston Bulldogs opened play in the Mizell Memorial Tournament last Monday morning and dropped a 63-45 decision to the Opp Bobcats. Albert Wilson scored 26 points to lead the Bobcats and Rhett Barnes added 15.

Brantley Bulldogs run past Panthers 73-62

The Brantley Bulldogs pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Georgiana Panthers 73-62, last Monday night. Rashard Smiley scored 26 points, had 4 steals and passed out 3 assists to lead the Bulldogs, while Thad Frazier added 17 points, 8 steals and 4 assists. Kevin Pitts added 16 points and Dexter Daniels scored 10. Kenny Peterson scored 22 points to lead Georgiana.

Gamecock rally fall short in loss to Opp 51-46

The New Brockton Gamecocks saw a furious fourth quarter rally fall short last Tuesday afternoon in a 51-46 loss to the Opp Bobcats, in the second round of the Mizell Memorial Tournament. The Gamecocks trailed 13-3 after one quarter and 27-6 at halftime, but rallied in the second half and threw a scare into the Bobcats only to come up short. Dadian Johnson scored 20 points and Rashard Andrews added 12, while Rhett Barnes let the Bobcats with 13 points.

Brantley Bulldogs wallop winless Tigers 94-27

The Brantley Bulldogs made it look easy last Tuesday night as they walloped the winless McKenzie Tigers 94-27, at McKenzie. Dexter Daniels scored 20 points to lead the (7-1) Bulldogs, while Rashard Smiley and Kevin Pitts both scored 15 points. Eighth-grader Wesley Person added 11 points and Thad Frazier scored 10. Sanrick Rudolph scored 12 points to lead the Tigers.

Brantley Lady Bulldogs fall to McKenzie 67-36

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs continued their early-season struggles last Tuesday night with a 67-36 loss to McKenzie. Teresa Guiley scored 10 points to lead Brantley, while Amber Rudolph scored 19 points and Carena Davidson added 18 for McKenzie.

Mizell Memorial Tournament Results

The final results of the Mizell Memorial Basketball Tournament were as follows (Boys) 1st-Florala, 2nd-Opp, 3rd-Straughn, 4th-New Brockton, 5th-Samson, 6th-Kinston, 7th-Pleasant Home and 8th-W.S. Neal. (Girls) 1st-Samson, 2nd-Opp, 3rd-Pleasant Home, 4th-Florala, 5th-Straughn, 6th-Kinston, 7th-W.S. Neal and 8th-New Brockton.

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SPORTS

Elba's Brandon Kelley joins trio of Brantley Bulldogs on 2005 "All-State" football team

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2005 High School "All-State" football selections last weekend and included among the honorees are a number of area players, including Elba Tiger Brandon Kelley.

Kelley, a three-year starter at Elba High, was named to the Class 2A All-State team as a punter after punting 27 times during the '05 season for an average of almost 35 yards per punt. The Elba senior was also the Tigers' starting quarterback, where he gained 109 yards and scored 3 touchdowns on 61 carries, and completed 111 of 211 passes for 1,992 yards and 21 touchdowns.

The Brantley Bulldogs, the runner-up in Class 1A, were well represented on the Class 1A squad with a total of three players being named All-State and two more receiving honorable mention.

Named to the 1A All-State team were tight-end Shane Corley, a 6-1, 185-pound, senior, linebacker Jeffery Daniels, a 6-2, 220-pound, junior, and defensive back Chris Booker, a 5-8, 165-pound, junior. Receiving honorable mention were offensive lineman Trahem Garrod, a junior, and defensive lineman Corey Latham, a junior.

Following is a list of players from Southeast Alabama that were named to the All-State teams:

Class 6A
Raven Gray - Enterprise, DL, Sr., 6-2, 244
Class 5A
Demorris Kilow - Carroll, RB, Sr., 6-2, 200
Daniel Orr - Eufaula, DL, Sr., 6-2, 225

Class 4A
Ladarrius McNeil - Andalusia, RB, Jr., 6-1, 190
Martell Myhand - Geneva, DB, Sr., 6-1, 190
Class 3A
James Jackson - Pike County, RB, Jr., 6-1, 190

Following is a list of players from Southeast Alabama that received honorable mention:

Class 6A
Robert Brooks - Enterprise, ATH, Sr.
Class 5A
Dermonte King - Ch. Henderson, WR, Sr., Charles Meade - Carroll, OL, Sr., Jared Loflin - Ch.



CHRIS BOOKER



SHANE CORLEY



JEFFERY DANIELS

Jr., 5-8, 157
Julius Fenn - Pike County, OL, Sr., 5-11, 265
Kevin Marshall - Pike County, DB, Jr., 6-0, 175
Jamon Barrow - Pike County, LB, Sr., 5-10, 188
Martez Boykin - Pike County, DL, Jr., 6-2, 215
Bernard Mitchell - Slocomb, LB, Sr., 6-2, 205
Wayne Grant - Pike County, Coach of the Year

Class 2A
Domini Rich - Houston Academy, RB, Sr., 5-10, 185
Davis Flowers - Houston Academy, LB, Jr., 6-2, 210
Stanley Jones - Houston Academy, ATH, Jr., 6-2, 185
Brandon Kelley - Elba, P. Sr., 6-2, 185
Fred Hawkins - Luverne, RB, Jr., 6-1, 190

Class 1A
Robby Evans - Florala, ATH, Sr., 6-1, 205

Justin Masters - Arton, RB, Jr.
Jerome Tomberlin - Florala, RB, Sr.
Justin Smith - Arton, DB, Sr.
Trahem Garrod - Brantley, OL, Jr.
Corey Latham - Brantley, DL, Jr.

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BRANDON KELLEY... senior quarterback for the Elba Tigers, was named to the Class 2A "All-State" football team last week by the Alabama Sports Writers Association as a punter.



BENJI PEACOCK... of Kinston, killed his first deer on December 10. The deer weighed 120 pounds. Benji is the son of Homer Peacock.



DEVIN JACKSON... of Elba, killed this 9-point buck while hunting recently near Zion Chapel. The buck weighed 210 pounds. Devin is the son of Wayne Jackson and Michelle Disotell.



CODY NORRIS... son of Jason and Wendy Norris, killed his first deer, a four point buck, on Nov. 20th. Cody is a member of Hurricane Creek Hunting Club.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Riley announces expansion of Senior Rx

Gov. Bob Riley on Tuesday announced more low-income Alabamians will be eligible for help with the cost of prescription drugs under an expansion of the Senior Rx program.

The program is now open to those 55 years of age and older. "More Alabamians will be able to get the medicine they need thanks to the expansion of this program," said Riley.

Alabama residents who do not have prescription drug coverage, have a chronic illness and meet the household income requirement are eligible for Senior Rx. The income levels for 2006 are \$20,000 and below for a single person and \$26,000 and below for a couple.

Senior Rx is a drug assistance

program provided by pharmaceutical manufacturers and covers medicines used to treat chronic illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes. Alabamians can enroll in Senior Rx by calling 1-800-Ageline (1-800-243-5463).

Alabamians who are eligible for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan are encouraged to enroll in that program because it covers all medicines, not just ones used to treat chronic illnesses. To enroll in the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, call 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227) or go to www.medicare.gov. Local assistance is available by calling 1-800-Ageline (1-800-243-5463).

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Enterprise, AL - 12 Months - \$21 Per Year • 6 Months - \$11
New Brockton, AL - 12 Months - \$24 Per Year • 6 Months - \$13

YEAR

(Continued from Page One)

highlight County BOE meeting: Photo shows a welder busy connecting joints of pipe near the apex of the levee at a location behind the old high school gym; Elba BOE names Josh Wilson to school board to complete the term of Dr. Kem Dyess who resigned; Shingled roof replacement project at Zion Chapel School well underway; Mike Haynes, owner of Wing Nuts Inc., serves as guest speaker at meeting and shares his love for restoration work with Elba Lions Club members.

June 30 - Dorsey Trailers Inc. bankruptcy moves to the sealed bid process; Dr. Joel Cline, director of the Bryan Taylor Diagnostic Lab, shows off the new state-of-the-art waste digester being installed in Elba's new lab facility; With little information at hand, Coffee County Commission approves tax abatement for Wayne Farms.

JULY 2005

July 7 - Early morning search of Coffee County Jail results in discovery of drug smuggling operation within the facility; Woodland Grove Baptist Church plans sesquicentennial anniversary; Wayne Farms announces \$10.5 million expansion; Coffee County Sheriff's Department officials capture work release inmate Charles Waters after he walked out the job June 10th; Shirley Jennifer Wells returns home safely after being reported missing by family members.

July 14 - Elba survives Hurricane Dennis without major problems; Efforts to find a buyer for Dorsey Trailer plant continue after bankruptcy court extends deadline; Coffee County Commission "thankful" that the county, for the most part, was spared any major damage from Hurricane Dennis; County BOE accepts gym floor bids for Zion Chapel and Kinston.

July 21 - Longtime Elba High School football coach Mack Wood dies at age 69; After

returning to work for Elba Police Department as school resource officer, Dean Blair says he feels a sense of coming home; New Brockton Town Council approves resolution to enter into agreement with the Alabama DOT for a grant regarding drainage improvements on Tyler Street; Attorney General Troy King serves as guest speaker at Tuesday, July 12, Elba Rotary Club meeting.

July 28 - Warrants issued for arrest of nine individuals after District Attorney reveals investigation of sex-related crimes involving children; Elba City Council votes to lower speed limit on a portion of Smith Ave.; Makenzie Wambles helps police beat the heat with fresh, cool lemonade; Dwight Holley, chief investigator with the Twelfth Judicial Circuit District Attorney's office, delivers news to Coffee County Commissioners that the governor's office approved a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for two bridge fires within the county earlier in the year; Former governor Don Siegelman visits help and host a "listening post."

AUGUST 2005

Aug. 4 - New Brockton Town Council approves salary increases for police and town clerk; Fire destroys a home located at 20079 Hwy. 189 N.; Elba Police Department holds initial Neighborhood Crime Watch meeting; State Representative Terry Spicer announces intent to seek reelection in 2006; Kindergarten jumpstart held at Coffee County School.

Aug. 11 - By approving a motion for intent to sale property, Coffee County Commission offers support for expansion of Dialysis Clinic Inc. (DCI) of Enterprise; Members of the Elba Fire Department respond to the scene of a house fire at 444 Smith Ave.; Coffee County Schools announce creation of a new website for the system and schools; Coffee County District Judge Paul Shering announces formation of truancy court.

Aug. 18 - City of Elba applies for recreation grant; Emergency personnel respond to the scene of a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 125 just north of the Coffee County landfill; Elba City Schools off to a good start with new school year as Alabama Department of Education status reports bring good news and excitement builds over new reading program, Reading Mastery, at the elementary school; Kinston Police make several possession of forged instrument arrests.

Aug. 25 - Elba City Council approves new city logo with the slogan, "Tradition with Vision"; Bankruptcy court rejects a \$1.6 million offer from Pitts Trailers to buy the Elba facility; Elba High School increases college level courses offered on campus; Commission votes to enter lease agreement with City of Enterprise at \$50,000 for 20 years regarding new multipurpose center; County BOE approves FY2006 budget.

SEPTEMBER 2005

Sept. 1 - River stage reporting to become "real time" with pending changes; Elba Police Department and ABC Drug Operations join forces to bring

Operation Save Teens program to Elba; County avoids damage from Hurricane Katrina storms; Emergency personnel respond to the scene of a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 84 East near the water tower; Hunter Goodson wins state giant cabbage growing contest.

Sept. 8 - Coffee County BOE discusses fuel conservation; Elba Chamber of Commerce accepts donations for Hurricane Katrina victims; Elba Church of God sends food and supplies to Bayou LaBatre to assist Hurricane Katrina victims.

Sept. 15 - In an update from sex-related cases revealed earlier in year, police capture fugitive and another arrested for rape; Coffee County Commissioners, along with other county officials, employees, family and friends travel to Pascagoula, Miss., to feed and assist residents of the storm ravaged area; Elba W&E board approves electric rate increases; Water Works and Sewer Board of New Brockton receives grant and loan check from USDA Rural Development to allow the town to complete a water system upgrade and expansion project.

Sept. 22 - Elba City Council approves cost-of-living raise for city retirees; Members of the Elba Fire Department respond to a structure fire near a residence on County Rd. 364; Two individuals arrested in New Brockton in connection with the alleged sexual assault of a juvenile; Covenant Community Church enjoys open house and building; Covenant Community Church members prepare Katrina kits for storm victims.

OCTOBER 2005

Oct. 6 - New Brockton Town Council members look for solutions following apparent altercation during youth football games; Elba's downtown square become center of information during community health fair and business expo; Coffee County citizens warned of "jury duty" scam; New bidder submits offer for Dorsey Trailer Company assets; District Judge Paul Shering presents program to Elba Kiwanis Club.

Oct. 13 - Commissioners want repair work addressed at Mt. Pleasant/Ino Senior Citizen Centers; Elba electric department employees replace a light pole near the intersection of Claxton Ave. and Simmons Street that was damaged after being struck by a vehicle in which the driver, Richard Scott McConnell, was attempting to elude police officers; Elba City Council takes the first step to get back into the garbage pickup business; Ribbon cutting held for Wildflowers Florist and Gifts.

Oct. 20 - Zion Chapel and new Brockton communities benefit from community enhancement grants; Elba High School retires the game jersey of Shander Daniels; Elba Chamber of Commerce prepares

"Old Haunted Jail" tour; Ribbon cutting held for Williams Auto Parts.

Oct. 27 - Bernest Brooks elected chairman of the Coffee County Commission for Fiscal Year 2006; The "Old Haunted Jail" tour brings visitors face-to-face with various villains and creatures as they make their way through some 15 different settings; Country music star Tracy Lawrence and local developer Ronnie Gilley invest in New Brockton future (introduce Mayberry USA and present \$100,000 to New Brockton High School); Ribbon cutting held for Monterey's Mexican Grill.

NOVEMBER 2005

Nov. 3 - Elba City Council moves one step closer to getting back in garbage pickup business by approving the low bid on a garbage truck and the purchase of 486 new roll away garbage containers; Members of the Elba Fire Dept. respond to the scene of a house fire at 1908 County Rd. 349; New Seasons Study Club of Elba shows support for Down Syndrome group; Alabama Attorney General Troy King visits his hometown of Elba telling everyone he is an active candidate for a full four year term to the office; Ribbon cutting held for Just Because.

Nov. 10 - New Brockton Christmas pageant committee makes donation to New Brockton High School library; Toledo Molding & Die Inc. employees gave \$23,678 to the American Red Cross for the benefit of Hurricane Katrina victims; County BOE looks at new option for substitute teachers; Jimmy Holley announces plan to seek reelection to Alabama Senate; Elba Mayor James Grimes proclaims Retired Teachers' Day.

Nov. 17 - Elba City Council approves alcohol license for Mulberry Community Grocery; The state diagnostic lab in Elba is operating from its new facility; Reports indicate Dorsey Trailer case possibly nearing an end as the main parties verbally agreed during a Nov. 8th bankruptcy hearing to a settlement which includes the court approved sale of assets; Reigning Miss Elba queens represent the city during the National Peanut Festival parade in Dothan.

Nov. 24 - Awards presented at annual Coffee County Farm City banquet; Local school systems combine forces to stress the importance of character education; Elba Fire Department looks to improve service thanks to a \$103,550 grant received from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Coffee County EMS awarded \$86,507 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters grant program.

DECEMBER 2005

Dec. 1 - Coffee County Commission approves architect for Zion Chapel Senior Citizens Center; Elba enjoys annual Christmas Festival; Santa helps open the holiday season as he makes his annual appearance in the Elba Christmas Parade; Elba Police investigating ring disappearance; Demolition work underway at old high school making way for the new playground to be constructed in 2006.

Dec. 8 - New Brockton Town Council appoints Dale Grimes as "acting" chief of police; Law enforcement and school officials conduct a routine campus search of the Elba City Schools; County BOE approves contract with Kelly Educational Services for substitute teachers; Mobile Attie chosen as "Pick of the Week"; Groundbreaking ceremonies held for \$2 million expansion of services at Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home.

Dec. 15 - Elba City Council approves two requests for on premises liquor license; Demolition work progressing on a portion of the old high school; Jim Gilmer presented "Four Avenues of Service Citation" during Elba Rotary Club's annual Christmas party.

Dec. 22 - The J.L. Johnson Family was featured as Elba's 2005 Christmas Family.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kinston Athletic Club holds annual Christmas pageant

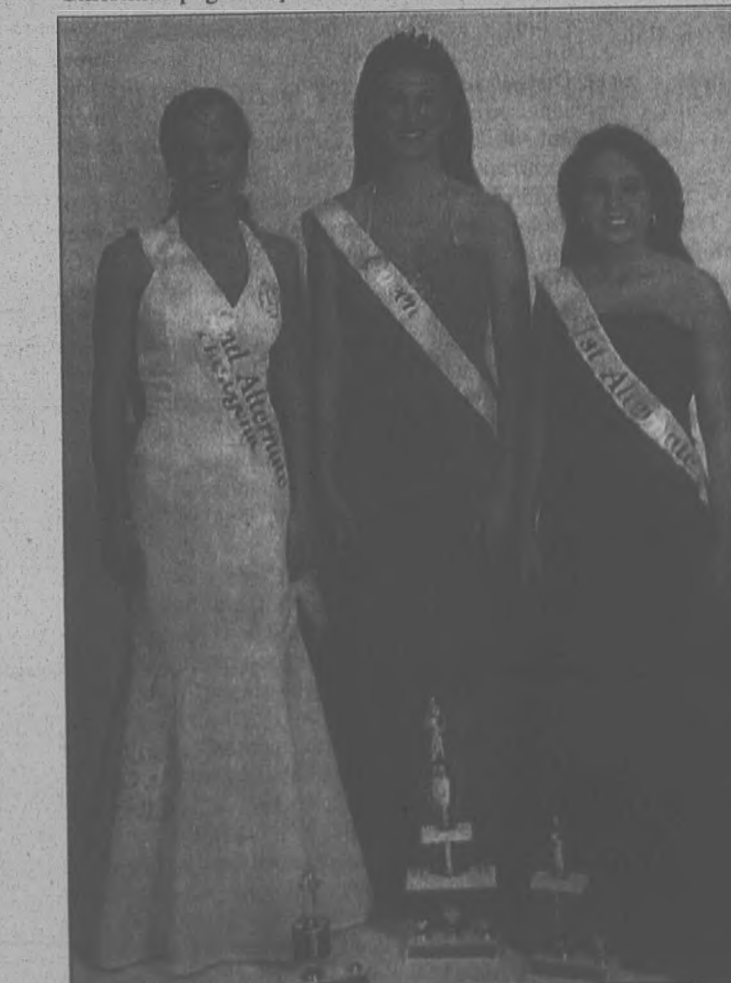
The Kinston Athletic Club held its annual Christmas pageant Saturday, Dec. 10, at Kinston High School. There were 11 different age divisions, and the athletic club thanks each participant for supporting the pageant. The winners are...



0-11 MONTH AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Landra Free, first alternate; Madison Holley, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Brianna Bowers, second alternate.



3-4 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Landra Free, first alternate; Madison Holley, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Brianna Bowers, second alternate.



5-6 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Madison Courson, first alternate; Baylee Holley, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Payton Gabrielle Foster, second alternate.

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6-11 MONTH AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Allison Brook Godwin was crowned the Kinston Christmas pageant queen for this age division.



12-18 MONTH AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Allison Brooke Divine was crowned the Kinston Christmas pageant queen for this age division.



19-35 MONTH AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Alexa Lee Ann Harper, first alternate; Taylor Breanne Carley, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Leigh Taylor Nelson, second alternate.



4-5 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Madison Courson, first alternate; Baylee Holley, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Payton Gabrielle Foster, second alternate.

11-12 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Arissa Neely Davis, first alternate; Kaitlyn Nicole McIntyre, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Brittany Smith, second alternate.



7-8 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Alanna Spann, first alternate; Alexandria Paige Wiggins, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Addison Genita Archie, second alternate.



9-10 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Aubree Kaitlyn Archie, second alternate; Chabrie Fuller, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Cassidy Johnson, first alternate.

13-14 YEAR OLD AGE DIVISION... (from left to right) Derrian Driggers, second alternate; Casey Hayes, Kinston Christmas pageant queen; and Micia Edmond, first alternate.

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SPRING REGISTRATION

Regular Registration
Andalusia/McArthur
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Greenville
January 5, 2006 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Luverne High School
January 5, 2006 - 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

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January 9, 2006

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COMMUNITY NEWS



THE LIVE NATIVITY SCENE on Davis Street is sponsored annually during the Christmas season by the Elba United Methodist Church. Members of the congregation volunteer their time to the event. Different members serve each night and rotate in and out of the historic scene hourly. Various animals are loaned to the event each year by church members.

NOTICE

The Elba Clipper office will be closed Monday, Jan. 2, 2006, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.

Due to the holiday, all social and church news will be due before 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, for the next edition of the paper. All other deadlines remain Tuesday at Noon.

Pageant Information:

Coffee County Forestry Scholarship Program is holding its preliminary pageant February 12, 2006 at the Enterprise Civic Center. Phone: 334-393-5362 Email: coffeecountyforestry@yahoo.com Website: <http://coffeecountyforestry.tripod.com/>



MARY KATHERINE HEAD, a 2005 member of the Auburn University dance line, has performed regularly in the halftime shows throughout the football season. She is traveling this week with the band to the school's Monday, Jan. 2, bowl appearance but will not be on the field at halftime. An automobile accident last month and the related arm injury resulted in a medical grounding from performances while the injury heals. Her hopes for a green light were dashed last week when the doctor again said it was "too soon". Mary Katherine is the daughter of Judge Tom and Chris Head of Elba.

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Enterprise-Ozark Community College receives accreditation

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) announced at its recent annual meeting that Enterprise-Ozark Community College has been reaffirmed for accreditation.

This reaffirmation comes after a lengthy process that included the development of a Quality Enhancement Plan designed to improve student learning.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College refined its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) and resubmitted it for further action by SACS," says Dr. Stafford Thompson, President of the College. "The College's QEP was approved without qualification. Warning was removed, and the College has met all requirements for full accreditation."

"The QEP is a new SACS requirement that all colleges and universities have to comply with, and it must address improving student learning," says Linda Gordon, EOCC English instructor and Reaffirmation Chairperson.

The College's Quality Enhancement Plan is a three-year plan designed to improve the students, learning experiences both within and outside the classroom. The Plan focuses on three important dimensions of learning as identified by the EOCC Instructional Council and the EOCC Quality Enhancement Plan Committee.

The first dimension involves characteristics of student engagement in the learning process and includes the

improvement and development of personal skills, such as making a commitment to learning and establishing an educational plan.

A second dimension of the QEP is the development of interpersonal skills, such as learning to work effectively in groups and acquiring respect for diverse populations.

The third dimension is the development of civic responsibility and increased awareness of the community in which the student lives and works.

"Our QEP Team consists of faculty and student affairs personnel who are all enthusiastic about improving what they are doing in the classroom and in the student programs they sponsor," says Mrs. Gordon. "We have had some very lively and productive brainstorming sessions, and we have all learned valuable techniques and strategies from our colleagues on the Team."

EOCC's spring semester begins January 9, and registration is currently underway. To enjoy the new learning environment at any of the College's locations, Enterprise, Ozark, Fort Rucker, or Mobile, call (334) 347-2623 or go online at www.eocc.edu to learn more about being admitted or registering.

Unemployment rate continues to drop

Alabama's unemployment rate took a big drop in November and is at its lowest level since at least 1976, Governor Bob Riley announced recently.

The unemployment rate in November fell to 3.6 percent, down from 4.5 percent recorded in October. That decrease is also the biggest monthly decline in Alabama unemployment since at least 1976.

"There's no question, there's no doubt, there's no debate: Alabama's economy is the best it's been in a long, long time," said Governor Riley. "For the second straight year, we're going to have a net gain of jobs. Our workers and our economic development strategy are succeeding."

November's unemployment figures cannot be compared to data prior to 1976 because the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics compares data only back to that year. So it is possible the November 2005 rate is the lowest in Alabama's history.

A year ago, in November 2004, Alabama's unemployment

rate stood at 5.4 percent — almost two full percentage points above November 2005's rate. In the past 12 months, the number of employed Alabamians rose by almost 48,000, figures from the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations show.

In just one month, the number of unemployed Alabamians fell from 98,928 to 77,778. The latest unemployment rate of 3.6 percent in Alabama is well below the national unemployment rate of 5.0 percent for November.

"This is the 10th consecutive month Alabama's unemployment rate has been lower than the national rate," said Governor Riley. "Every county in our state saw a drop in unemployment in November."



Family Fun Night

Elba Skating Rink
(Claxton Avenue)

TONIGHT!

Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

\$18 for a Family of 4

\$5 - Per Person

First 20 People - FREE Pizza



Come One! Come All!



Invite Mike's friends and customers to come by Cook Ford on the Troy Highway and let him handle your automobile repair needs. Mike's many years of auto repair experience can pay off for you. Mike specializes in Brake and General Auto Repair work.

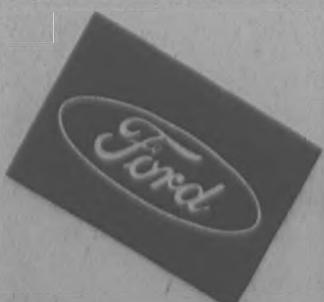
Cook Ford now offers the latest in Transmission and Cooling System Flushing equipment. This now allows our technicians to completely replace absolutely all the used oil or coolant from you engine or cooling system.



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Why auto owners need auto insurance

by **Kenneth Calhoun**
Insurance agent

Each year, more cars and drivers hit the highways. With so many vehicles on the road, crashes will happen.

Automobile insurance can be the difference between a minor inconvenience and a major hassle, but why do motorists need insurance and just how much should they buy?

Auto insurance protects motorists by paying for damage or injury they cause others while driving; damage to his/her own car or injury; plus certain other occurrences such as theft.

Auto insurance is required by law in all states and provinces. Without insurance, a motorist risks having to pay the full cost of any harm caused to others or of repairing or replacing his/her vehicle if it is damaged or stolen.

Coverage requirements vary by state/province but usually include the following:

Liability: It pays for damages due to bodily injury and property damage to others for which the motorist is responsible. Bodily injury damages include medical expenses, lost wages and pain and suffering. Property damage includes damaged property and loss of use of property. If a motorist is sued, it also pays for defense and court costs. State laws usually mandate minimum amounts, but higher amounts are available and usually recommended.

Personal injury protection: This is required in some states and is optional in others. It pays for medical treatment resulting from a crash, regardless of who may have been at fault, and is often called no-fault coverage. It may also pay for lost earnings, replacement of services and

funeral expenses. State law usually sets minimum amounts.

Medical payments: This coverage is available in non-no-fault states and it pays regardless of who may have been at fault. It pays for an insured person's reasonable and necessary medical and funeral expenses for bodily injury from a crash.

Collision: This pays for damage to the motorist's vehicle caused by collision.

Comprehensive: This applies if the motorist's car is stolen or damaged by causes other than collision, including fire, wind, hail, flood or vandalism.

Uninsured motorist: This pays damages when an insured person is injured in a crash caused by another person who does not have liability insurance or by a person who cannot be identified (usually a hit-and-run driver).

Underinsured motorist: This pays damages when an insured person is injured in a crash caused by another person who does not have enough liability insurance to cover the full amount of the damages.

Other coverages, such as emergency road service and car rental, are also available.

What a motorist pays for auto insurance will vary by company and will depend on several factors, including:

- What coverages are selected
- The make and model of the car

- The insured's driving record
- The insured's age, sex and marital status

Where the insured lives

Many people think of auto insurance as a necessary evil, but it can save a person's financial well-being. Motorists are encouraged evaluate their needs, do research and make the decision that best suits them.